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IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.-39 (canceled)

1 40. (currently amended) A method of abstracting an electronic document
2 comprising the following steps:
3 prompting a user to select an abstracted version of the electronic document to be
4 created from a plurality of abstracted versions available to be created;
5 responsive to a selection by the user of the abstracted version to be created,
6 creating the selected abstracted version of the electronic document by executing a set of
7 instructions corresponding to the electronic document, wherein the instructions are,
8 before said abstracted version is selected by the user, customized to the electronic
9 document, the customization comprising a plurality of weights pre-assigned to respective
10 portions of the electronic document to enable creation of said plurality of abstracted
11 versions; and
12 outputting the abstracted version of the electronic document in a predetermined
13 format. ~~The method of claim 1,~~
14 ____ wherein prior to said prompting step, said user selects a set of instructions for
15 abstracting said electronic document from a plurality of sets of instructions for
16 abstracting the electronic document, each of said sets of instruction being customized,
17 before selection thereof, to said electronic document, each of said sets of instructions
18 configured to enable creation of a plurality of different abstracted versions of said
19 electronic document.

41. (canceled)

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1 42. (currently amended) A system for abstracting an electronic document
2 comprising:
3 means for prompting a user to select an abstracted version of the electronic
4 document to be created from a plurality of abstracted versions available to be created;
5 means for creating, responsive to a selection by the user of the abstracted version
6 to be created, the selected abstracted version of the electronic document by executing a
7 set of instructions corresponding to the electronic document, wherein the instructions are,
8 before said abstracted version is selected by the user, customized to the electronic
9 document, the customization comprising a plurality of weights pre-assigned to respective
10 portions of the electronic document to enable creation of said plurality of abstracted
11 versions; and
12 means for outputting the abstracted version of the electronic document in a
13 predetermined format[The system of claim 23],
14 _____ wherein prior to said prompting step, said user selects a set of instructions for
15 abstracting said electronic document from a plurality of sets of instructions for
16 abstracting the electronic document, each of said sets of instruction being customized,
17 before selection thereof, to said electronic document, each of said sets of instructions
18 configured to enable creation of a plurality of different abstracted versions of said
19 electronic document.

1 43. (new) The method of claim 40, wherein the set of instructions further
2 comprise a description of at least one abstracted version capable of being created by
3 executing the set of instructions.

1 44. (new) The method of claim 40, wherein the set of instructions are attached
2 to the electronic document.

1 45. (new) The method of claim 40, wherein the set of instructions comprise
2 instructions for removing grammatical articles.

1 46. (new) The method of claim 40, wherein the set of instructions comprise

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2 instructions for removing grammatical adverbs.

1 47. (new) The method of claim 40, wherein the set of instructions comprise
2 instructions for removing grammatical adjectives.

1 48. (new) The method of claim 40, wherein the set of instructions comprise
2 instructions for contracting verb clauses.

1 49. (new) The method of claim 40, wherein said executing step comprises
2 identifying a subset of said plurality of weights, said subset associated with said selected
3 abstracted version to be created, and removing portions of said electronic document
4 based on said subset.

1 50. (new) The system of claim 42, wherein said executing step comprises
2 identifying a subset of said plurality of weights, said subset associated with said selected
3 abstracted version to be created, and removing portions of said electronic document
4 based on said subset.

1 51. (new) The system of claim 23, wherein the set of instructions are attached
2 to the electronic document.

1 52. (previously presented) The system of claim 42, wherein the set of
2 instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical articles, removing
3 grammatical adverbs or a combination thereof.

1 53. (original) The system of claim 42, wherein the set of instructions comprise
2 instructions for removing grammatical adjectives.

1 54. (new) The system of claim 42, wherein the set of instructions comprise
2 instructions for contracting verb clauses.

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- 1 55. (new) The system of claim 42, wherein the set of instructions further
- 2 comprise a description of at least one abstracted version capable of being created by
- 3 executing the set of instructions.

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